Interview with Mrs. Elise Cerniglia, Cuban Catholic Relief, 330 N. Jefferson Davis Parkway, 12/10/68

Mrs. Cerniglia, wife of Dr. A. Cerniglia (one of whose offices is in the building next door, going from Canal St., home address 5237 Pratt, 282-3339), has run this relief organization since before they had an office, when she operated from her home. They are largely financed by federal funds.

Her files do contain a Jose Morejon, but it clearly is not the one who might be Joe Moore. This man did not come here until February 1968.

Her files are not well ordered. Much of the information is in her head alone.

Ricardo Davis never asked the organization for help for himself. She regards him as a con artist. The FBI reports are false in their references to the help to the men picked up by the border patrol on Chef Menteur because she knew that these men were from a training camp and she knew the camps existed and had the purpose of training commandos. She regarded this as a joke. She has a low opinion of Davis, ~~regarding him as a con man~~.

In his early days, Edward Scannel Butler came to her often. She does not hold him in high esteem, regards him as a promoter, primarily of himself.

From the WDSU courtoom footage, she identified the man with the mustache as Claudio Cruz, brother of Miguel. She says they are a large family.

She is firm in her recollection that for three days prior to Oswald's Canal-Street arrest a number of Cubans came in daily to complain of a "nut" handing out pro-Castro literature. I regard this as significant, for it never did make sense that Oswald would have given his stuff out only three times over such a period of time. She also my memo on Brian Ampolsk on this. She counselled them all to ignore whoever it was.

I asked her to try and find time to write down what she recalled of the various camps, of which she had heard from a number of Cubans. It was not at all secret.

She also told me that Robert Scott McIntosh II, 524-4436, an attorney in the ITM Bldg., has been to see her. He seems to be a lawyer retained by the Miami lawyers representing the Cubans arrested for bombings there (Cuban Power).